U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 10/643,083 Attorney Docket No.: 37629-0077 Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Before entry of the present amendment, claims 1-15 were pending. Upon entry of this

amendment, each of these claims will be canceled in favor of new claims 16-22. For the

convenience of the Examiner, Applicants note that claims 16-18 were presented on February

13, 2003 (Paper No. 19), as claims 19-21 in the parent application, wherein the Examiner of

that case noted those claims were "drawn to an invention that is patentably distinct from the

invention of [the then-pending claims]." Support for these claims can be found, for instance,

in examples 1.5 and 2.3, at pages 22 and 25, respectfully of the Specification; and at page 10,

lines 12-13.

The amendments to the Specification are formalistic in nature and are made to bring the

application into compliance with standard PTO practice. Applicants await a speedy Office

Action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Navember B. 2003

Paul M. Booth

Reg. No. 40,244

Customer ID No. 26633

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE

1666 K Street, NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20006-1228

(202) 912-2000 (telephone)

(202) 912-2020 (telecopier)

5